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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,386	09/18/2003	Hitoshi Yamamoto	2271/70910	4427

7590
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1185 Avenue of the Americas
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06/26/2007

EXAMINER

CALLAHAN, PAUL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2137

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/26/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/664,386

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Paul Callahan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9-18-03.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 1-31, 39-45 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 32-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4-16-04, 7-26-06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-45 are pending in the instant application and have been examined.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claims 32-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

As for independent claims 32 and 33, the claims are each directed towards a computer-program product comprising computer program instruction that when executed by a computer, cause a computer to undertake the steps in the program. However, in neither claim 32 or 33 is the computer-program product recited as being embodied in a computer-readable memory medium.

From MPEP Sec. 2106.01[R-5]:

FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL: "DATA STRUCTURES "

REPRESENTING DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL PER SE OR COMPUTER

PROGRAMS REPRESENTING COMPUTER LISTINGS PER SE:

"Data structures not claimed as embodied in computer-readable media are descriptive material per se and are not statutory because they are not capable of causing functional change in the computer. See, e.g., Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1361, 31 USPQ2d at 1760 (claim to a data structure per se held nonstatutory). Such claimed data structures do not define any structural and functional interrelationships between the data structure and other claimed aspects of the invention which permit the data structure's functionality to be realized."

Therefore claims 32 and 33 are rejected as being directed towards non-statutory subject matter. Claims 34-38 are dependent on claim 33 and are rejected on the same basis as that claim. None of the dependent claims cure the deficiency of claim 33 by reciting that the computer program product is embodied in a computer-readable memory medium.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-31 and 39-45 are allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art in the field does not teach the combination of features found in the independent claims, particularly including:

As per independent claims 1, 4, 7-9, 14-16, 18-21, 23, and 24, the a PC card control device comprising an identification information acquisition part, and a first and

second recording parts that identify the type of a connected card using identification information of the card acquired by the acquiring part and at least pieces of second identification information of the card recorded in the second recording part.

As per independent claims 25, 26, 39, and 40, identifying a type of a connected card based on information acquired from the card by an identification information acquisition device, and utilizing second information stored in advance in the PC card control device.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following US Patent documents teach configurations of PC Card control devices pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure:

Oh et al. 6,807,597

Oh et al. 7,076,589

Oh et al. 6,470,284

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise, can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone

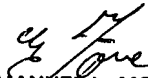
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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



/Paul E. Callahan/
6-20-07



EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER